GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5256
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
SUPPLY OF WATER TO RURAL HABITANTS
Ramadass Prof. M

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the new initiatives taken by the Government to collect data on the status of rural water supply with respect to source, quality, etc.;

(b) the current status of rural water supply including the provision of water supply to all rural habitations;

(c) the steps taken to provide integrated water supply; and

(d) the measures taken to provide institutional finance for the above projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) In order to ascertain status of drinking water supply in rural habitations and water quality problems in various rural habitations, the Central Government requested the State Governments to conduct habitation survey and quality survey. The job of validation of habitation survey data has been entrusted to Indian Institute of Public Administration.

(b) As per the Comprehensive Action Plan, 1999 and the subsequent coverage position reported by the States/UTs, the status of coverage of habitations with drinking water supply is as under:-

Category	No. of Habitations
Fully Covered	13,56,031
Partially Covered	60,884
Not Covered	5,368
Uninhabited/Urbanized etc.	381
Total	14,22,664

The quality survey results reveal that there are 2,16,968 quality affected habitations as per the following details: -

Nature of Quality problem	No. of affected habitations
Excess Fluoride	31306
Excess Arsenic	5029
Excess Salinity	23495
Excess Iron	118088
Excess Nitrate	13958
Multiple	25092
Total	216968

(c) & (d) Water is a State subject. State Governments are expected to ensure coverage of rural habitations with drinking water supply. Central Government supplement the efforts of the States in this regard by rendering financial assistance and technical support under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

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